

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 STR-04 CIAE-00 INR-07

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DRAFTED BY COM/OTEX/M.DENNY-BROWN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 204374

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, LI

SUBJECT: REIMPOSITION OF IMPORT BAN ON USED CLOTHING

REFERENCE: MONROVIA 5113 - MONROVIA 5530

1. THERE IS NO USG SYSTEM OF INSPECTION FOR USED CLOTHING, OUTSIDE OF STATE LAWS WHICH REQUIRE FUMIGATION FOR CLOTHING PROCESSED IN CERTAIN STATES. WHETHER CLOTHING IS CLEANED OR NOT USUALLY AT OPTION OF DEALER. FUMIGATION OR HEALTH CERTIFICATES AGAINST COMMUNICABLE DISEASES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM LOCAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OR LOCAL COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH.

2. U.S. HAS EXPORTED USED CLOTHING TO OVER 100 COUNTRIES FOR MANY YEARS WITHOUT ANY APPARENT HEALTH PROBLEMS. IN 1975, U.S. EXPORTED 498 MILLION POUNDS OF USED CLOTHING, VALUED AT \$123 MILLION. MOREOVER, DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION WITHIN U.S. ESTIMATED AT FOUR TIMES THE QUANTITY WHICH EXPORTED

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3. U.S. EXPORT DATA INDICATES LIBERIA ALLOWED ONLY
160,787 LB. OF USED CLOTHING AND RAGS (SCHEDULE B NO. 267)
TO BE IMPORTED IN 1975 AT A VALUE OF \$197,644. LARGEST
QUANTITY OF U.S. EXPORTS IN 1975 WENT TO ITALY (103
MILLION LB.) AND SPAIN (99 MILLION LB.). 5 LEADING MARKETS
IN AFRICA WERE: -

	MILLIONS OF LBS.	MILLIONS OF DOLLARS
TUNISIA	34	6
TOGO	20	7
DAHOMY	13	6
UPPER VOLTA	9	4
NIGERIA	8	4

4. EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO GET BAN LIFTED ARE APPRECIATED.
IF BAN IS TO CONTINUE, PLEASE CLARIFY WHETHER GOODS WHICH
ORDERED OR SHIPPED BEFORE BAN MAY BE ACCEPTED INTO LIBERIA
AND REPORT UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS BAN LIKELY TO BE
LIFTED. KISSINGER

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